

Are Warts Potatophobic?

Some years ago (1980's) my 6 year old daughter "Tish", developed a cluster of three or so, bothersome warts on one of her finger knuckles. The wife and I discussed having a doctor remove them. As you might expect, 6 year-old Tish, wanted no part of any doctor doodling around on her finger, and insisted she didn't mind the warts at all. So, I halfheartedly told her of an old "wart killing potato" home remedy, passed down to us by her great, great grandmother. And all that was required, was to:

[Take a raw potato and cut it in half, rub the inner part of one half on the wart, and afterwards, bury the half in the backyard. Should the buried bit sprout, the wart will leave and not return.]

Tish was all in, so we did exactly as was prescribed. She checked for sprouts each and every day, somedays more than once. However, after hearing of this, Grandma, (wife's side) got very upset with me for allowing Tish to choose such a nonsensical course of treatment. The potato remedy denying Grandma, did her best to explain to Tish why the "potato trick" would fail, and that the warts would eventually have to be removed by the doctor. Tish wouldn't hear of it, and patiently waited to see if the potato would sprout. I can't remember if it ever did, but to the amazement of everyone except Tish, the warts were completely gone within 6 weeks, never to return. Over the years since, I attributed this potato healing phenomenon to the wisdom of our elders and the unwavering faith, purity and innocence of thought and prayer, of a very special little girl.

A very pleased Dad, indeed.